

Congress of the United States  
Washington, DC 20510

298

April 6, 2017

Received & Inspected

APR 11 2017

FCC Mail Room

Honorable Ajit Pai  
Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Pai,

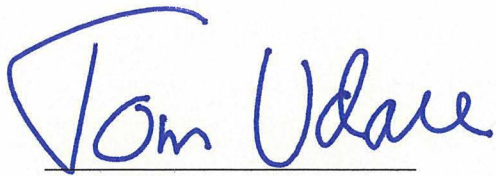
We write in support of the New Mexico Public Regulation Commission's (PRC) nomination of Chairman Sandy Jones to serve on the newly formed Federal Communications Commission Broadband Deployment Advisory Committee. Mr. Jones's efforts to improve broadband access and quality of service for rural New Mexico and his leadership in creating regulations and policies that finance the expansion of broadband in rural communities to enable people to access education, health and job opportunities that were once out of reach make him a qualified candidate for consideration.

As a commissioner for the Southwestern region of New Mexico, Mr. Jones understands first hand that reliable high-speed Internet is critical to leveling the playing field between rural and urban communities. Notably, he took a lead role in working with the New Mexico PRC to amend the Universal Service fund to create a Broadband Fund to finance the deployment of internet throughout the state, especially in highly rural, low-income and Tribal communities. This experience highlights his ability to work directly with an agency as a representative of community needs. The Southwest and other rural states have unique infrastructure challenges, therefore I believe a representative familiar with digital divide issues would make a strong contribution to the Broadband Deployment Advisory Committee.

By connecting our rural communities through reliable, fast broadband service, we are laying a strong foundation for economic growth, job creation, and improved quality of life for all Americans. Mr. Jones's knowledge and experience working with federal and state initiatives to address this problem would lead him to be an invaluable asset to the advisory committee.

I ask that you give every due consideration to Mr. Sandy Jones's nomination within your agency's established rules and guidelines.

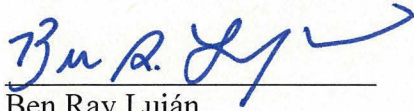
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tom Udall". The signature is stylized, with the first name and last name clearly legible.

Tom Udall  
United States Senator

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Martin Heinrich". The signature is stylized, with the first name and last name clearly legible.

Martin Heinrich  
United States Senator

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ben Ray Luján". The signature is stylized, with the first name and last name clearly legible.

Ben Ray Luján  
United States Representative



OFFICE OF  
THE CHAIRMAN

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

April 20, 2017

The Honorable Ben Ray Luján  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2231 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Luján:

Thank you for your letter supporting the appointment of Mr. Sandy Jones, Chairman of the New Mexico Public Regulation Commission, to serve on the Commission's Broadband Deployment Advisory Committee (BDAC).

Last September, I proposed what I called a Digital Empowerment Agenda—a blueprint of policies that would accelerate the deployment of high-speed Internet access, or broadband, in communities across the country, including rural America. The BDAC is intended to provide an effective means for stakeholders to exchange ideas and develop recommendations to the Commission on broadband deployment. Its mission will be to identify regulatory barriers to infrastructure investment and to make recommendations on reducing and/or removing them, which will in turn enhance the Commission's ability to carry out its statutory responsibility to encourage broadband deployment to all Americans.

We were fortunate to have an excellent and deep pool of applicants to serve on the BDAC, including Mr. Jones. The Commission received over 380 applications, resulting in the selection of 29 members for the BDAC, which will meet for the first time on April 21, 2017. In the coming weeks, we expect to select additional applicants to serve on the BDAC's working groups. We will certainly consider your recommendation and Mr. Jones's impressive resume as the Commission reviews the nominations for the BDAC working groups.

I appreciate your taking the time to communicate your recommendations to me. Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "Ajit V. Pai", is positioned above the printed name.

Ajit V. Pai





OFFICE OF  
THE CHAIRMAN

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

April 20, 2017

The Honorable Martin Heinrich  
United States Senate  
303 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Heinrich:

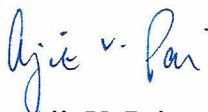
Thank you for your letter supporting the appointment of Mr. Sandy Jones, Chairman of the New Mexico Public Regulation Commission, to serve on the Commission's Broadband Deployment Advisory Committee (BDAC).

Last September, I proposed what I called a Digital Empowerment Agenda—a blueprint of policies that would accelerate the deployment of high-speed Internet access, or broadband, in communities across the country, including rural America. The BDAC is intended to provide an effective means for stakeholders to exchange ideas and develop recommendations to the Commission on broadband deployment. Its mission will be to identify regulatory barriers to infrastructure investment and to make recommendations on reducing and/or removing them, which will in turn enhance the Commission's ability to carry out its statutory responsibility to encourage broadband deployment to all Americans.

We were fortunate to have an excellent and deep pool of applicants to serve on the BDAC, including Mr. Jones. The Commission received over 380 applications, resulting in the selection of 29 members for the BDAC, which will meet for the first time on April 21, 2017. In the coming weeks, we expect to select additional applicants to serve on the BDAC's working groups. We will certainly consider your recommendation and Mr. Jones's impressive resume as the Commission reviews the nominations for the BDAC working groups.

I appreciate your taking the time to communicate your recommendations to me. Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

  
Ajit V. Pai



OFFICE OF  
THE CHAIRMAN

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

April 20, 2017

The Honorable Tom Udall  
United States Senate  
531 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Udall:

Thank you for your letter supporting the appointment of Mr. Sandy Jones, Chairman of the New Mexico Public Regulation Commission, to serve on the Commission's Broadband Deployment Advisory Committee (BDAC).

Last September, I proposed what I called a Digital Empowerment Agenda—a blueprint of policies that would accelerate the deployment of high-speed Internet access, or broadband, in communities across the country, including rural America. The BDAC is intended to provide an effective means for stakeholders to exchange ideas and develop recommendations to the Commission on broadband deployment. Its mission will be to identify regulatory barriers to infrastructure investment and to make recommendations on reducing and/or removing them, which will in turn enhance the Commission's ability to carry out its statutory responsibility to encourage broadband deployment to all Americans.

We were fortunate to have an excellent and deep pool of applicants to serve on the BDAC, including Mr. Jones. The Commission received over 380 applications, resulting in the selection of 29 members for the BDAC, which will meet for the first time on April 21, 2017. In the coming weeks, we expect to select additional applicants to serve on the BDAC's working groups. We will certainly consider your recommendation and Mr. Jones's impressive resume as the Commission reviews the nominations for the BDAC working groups.

I appreciate your taking the time to communicate your recommendations to me. Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "Ajit V. Pai", is positioned above the printed name.

Ajit V. Pai